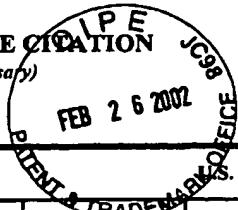


INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
 (Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional) **N01276US** Application Number **09/855,621**
 Applicant(s) **Masaru Hirata**
 Filing Date **May 16, 2001** Group Art Unit **2631**



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|-------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
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| REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
|-----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| llk | WO 01/03318 A1 | 01/11/01 | PCT | | | | |
| llk | EP 1 133 072 A1 | 09/12/01 | EUROPE | | | | |
| llk | WO 98/29965 | 07/09/98 | PCT | | | | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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| llk | United Kingdom Search Report dated December 10, 2001 |
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EXAMINER **KATI TRAN** **DATE CONSIDERED** **9/10/04**

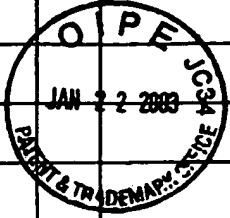
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
(Use several sheets if necessary)

| | |
|---|---|
| Docket Number (Optional) N01276US | Application Number 09/855,621 |
| Applicant(s) Masaru HIRATA | |
| Filing Date May 16, 2001 | Group Art Unit 2631 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
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| | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation | |
|------------|-----|-----------------|----------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | YES | NO |
| <i>llk</i> | | WO 99/39452 | 08/05/99 | PCT | | | | |
| <i>llk</i> | | 10-107768 | 04/24/98 | JAPAN | | | ABS | |
| <i>llk</i> | | 2000-004212 | 01/07/00 | JAPAN | | | ABS | |
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OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

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|------------|--|
| <i>llk</i> | Japanese Office Action, dated October 22, 2002 |
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| EXAMINER <i>g/uo/04</i> | DATE CONSIDERED <i>9/16/04</i> |
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